

ClaimsWhat is claimed is:

- 1 1. A computer controlled display system for generating  
2 quality assurance contract requirements for software  
3 suppliers comprising:  
4 means for assessing the quality level of each of a  
5 set of quality attributes of said software suppliers; and  
6 means for generating for each of said quality  
7 attributes at least one contract requirement for said  
8 supplier based upon the quality level of said attribute.
- 1 2. The computer controlled display system of claim 1  
2 wherein:  
3 said means for assessing the quality level includes  
4 means for determining one of a plurality of quality  
5 levels for each of said set of quality attributes, and  
6 said means for generating includes means for  
7 generating a different contract requirement for each of  
8 said quality levels for each attribute.
- 1 3. The computer controlled display system of claim 2  
2 wherein no contract requirement is generated for at least  
3 one of said quality levels for at least one of said  
4 quality attributes.
- 1 4. The computer controlled display system of claim 2  
2 wherein said means for determining said quality levels  
3 determines said levels dynamically during the system  
4 operation.

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1 5. The computer controlled display system of claim 2  
2 wherein:

3        said set of quality attributes consists of a single  
4    overall quality characteristic having several  
5    predetermined quality levels, and

6           said means for generating provides a plurality of  
7   contract requirements for each of said predetermined  
8   quality levels.

1 6. The computer controlled display system of claim 1  
2 wherein said contract requirement involves tracking and  
3 reporting of said software development.

1 7. The computer controlled display system of claim 1  
2 wherein said contract requirement involves tracking and  
3 reporting of testing of said software.

1 8. The computer controlled display system of claim 1  
2 wherein said contract requirement involves software  
3 supplier risk identification and reduction.

1 9. The computer controlled display system of claim 1  
2 wherein said contract requirement involves the management  
3 processes of said supplier.

1 10. The computer controlled display system of claim 1  
2 wherein:

3       said display system assigns said software supply  
4   function to said software supplier in an overall work  
5   flow distribution system; and

6       said means for generating automatically generate and  
7       distribute said contract requirements to said supplier in  
8       response to the selection of said supplier.

- 1 11. A method for generating, on a user interactive  
2 computer controlled display system, quality assurance  
3 contract requirements for software suppliers comprising:  
4 assessing the quality level of each of a set of  
5 quality attributes of said software supplier; and  
6 generating for each of said quality attributes at  
7 least one contract requirement for said supplier based  
8 upon the quality level of said attribute.
- 1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein:  
2 said step of assessing the quality level includes  
3 determining one of a plurality of quality levels for each  
4 of said set of quality attributes, and  
5 generating a different contract requirement for each  
6 of said quality levels for each attribute.
- 1 13. The method of claim 12 wherein no contract  
2 requirement is generated for at least one of said quality  
3 levels for at least one of said quality attributes.
- 1 14. The method of claim 12 wherein said step of  
2 assessing said quality levels determines said levels  
3 dynamically during the system operation.
- 1 15. The method of claim 12 wherein:  
2 said set of quality attributes consists of a single  
3 overall quality characteristic having several  
4 predetermined quality levels, and  
5 a plurality of contract requirements for each of  
6 said predetermined quality levels is generated.

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1 16. The method of claim 11 wherein said contract  
2 requirement involves tracking and reporting of said  
3 software development.

1 17. The method of claim 11 wherein said contract  
2 requirement involves tracking and reporting of testing of  
3 said software.

1 18. The method of claim 11 wherein said contract  
2 requirement involves software supplier risk  
3 identification and reduction.

1 19. The method of claim 11 wherein said contract  
2 requirement involves the management processes of said  
3 supplier.

1 20. The method of claim 11 wherein:  
2 said software supply function is assigned to said  
3 software supplier in an overall work flow distribution  
4 method; and  
5 said contract requirements are automatically  
6 generated and distributed to said supplier in response to  
7 the selection of said supplier.

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1 22. The computer program of claim 21 wherein:  
2 said means for assessing the quality level includes  
3 means for determining one of a plurality of quality  
4 levels for each of said set of quality attributes, and  
5 said means for generating includes means for  
6 generating a different contract requirement for each of  
7 said assessed quality levels for each attribute.

1 24. The computer program of claim 22 wherein said means  
2 for assessing said quality levels determines said levels  
3 dynamically during the system operation.

1 25. The computer program of claim 22 wherein:  
2       said set of quality attributes consists of a single  
3 overall quality characteristic having several  
4 predetermined quality levels, and  
5       said means for generating provides a plurality of  
6 contract requirements for each of said predetermined  
7 quality levels.

1 26. The computer program of claim 21 wherein said  
2 contract requirement involves tracking and reporting of  
3 said software development.

1 27. The computer program of claim 21 wherein said  
2 contract requirement involves tracking and reporting of  
3 testing of said software.

1 28. The computer program of claim 21 wherein said  
2 contract requirement involves software supplier risk  
3 identification and reduction.

1 29. The computer program of claim 21 wherein said  
2 contract requirement involves the management processes of  
3 said supplier.

1 30. The computer program of claim 21 wherein:  
2 said display system assigns said software supply  
3 function to said software supplier in an overall work  
4 flow distribution system; and  
5 said means for generating automatically generate and  
6 distribute said contract requirements to said supplier in  
7 response to the selection of said supplier.